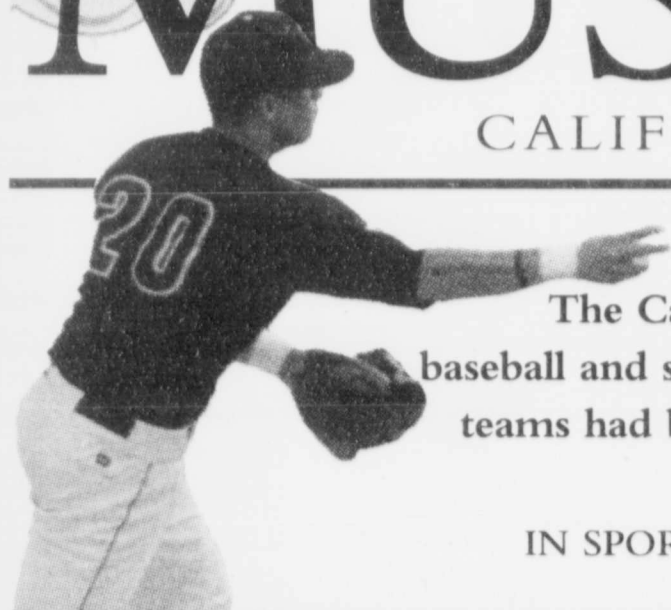


TOMORROW: Partly cloudy High 76°/Low 55°

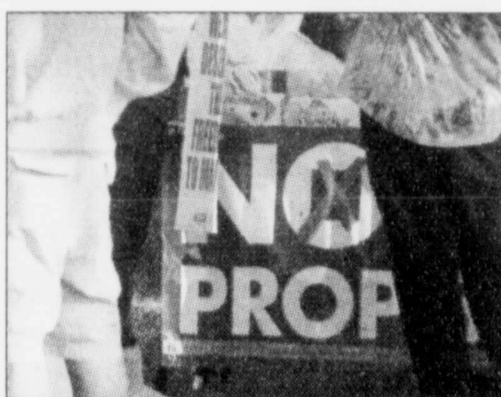
MUSTANG DAILY

CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVERSITY



The Cal Poly baseball and softball teams had banner years.

IN SPORTS, 12



Go online to see a video on the local response to the Calif. Supreme Court ruling.

mustangdaily.net

"The Anthem" slam event returns to Cal Poly.

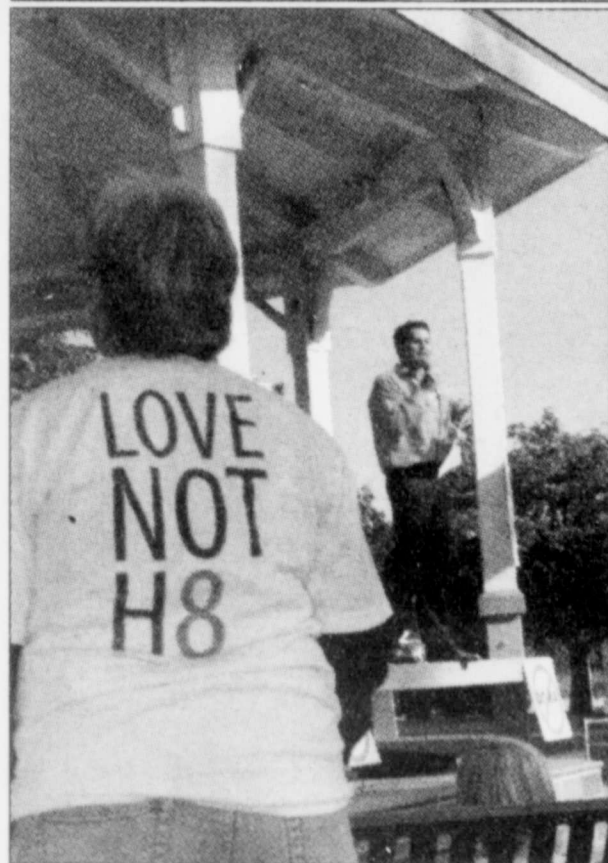
IN ARTS, 6



Volume LXXIII, Number 153

Wednesday, May 27, 2009

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LAUREN RABAINO MUSTANG DAILY

Students and community members gathered yesterday to show their support for same-sex marriage and share their disappointment at the California Supreme Court's ruling to uphold Proposition 8.

Local Prop. 8 opponents unite to mourn Calif. Supreme Court ruling

Local gay marriage advocates gathered at Mitchell Park Tuesday to oppose the California Supreme Court's ruling to uphold Proposition 8, the proposition passed last November that banned same-sex marriage.

About 250 community members congregated for an event organized by the San Luis Obispo chapter of Marriage Equality USA. The 6-1 ruling determined that the 18,000 same-sex marriages that took place before the vote remain valid.

After the passage of Proposition 8, several same-sex couples took the vote results to the courts, stating that the ballot measure was unconstitutional under state law.

The court rejected those claims, with the majority opinion stating that it is not the court's role to determine whether Proposition 8 "is wise or sound as a matter of policy or whether we, as individuals believe it should be a part of the California Constitution," but instead "is limited to interpreting and applying the principles and rules embodied in the California Constitution, setting aside our own personal beliefs and values."

According to public law and political theory professor

Ronald Den Otter, the ruling was almost inevitable.

"The decision wasn't unexpected," Den Otter said. "Very few people thought that the court would find that Proposition 8 constituted a constitutional revision and therefore, required approval of the legislature before being submitted to the voters. Very few people also thought that Proposition 8 was retroactive and therefore invalidated the approximately 18,000 same-sex marriages that had been performed before November 4, 2009."

Some Cal Poly student organizations attended to show their support for same-sex marriage, including the Pride Center and Delta Lambda Phi, a fraternity for gay, bisexual and progressive men.

The Supreme Court decision was a let-down for Delta Lambda Phi president Brad Purpura, who was optimistic about the possibility of Proposition 8 being overruled.

"I'm completely dumb-founded actually," Purpura said. "I was sure that it was going to get overruled. Given

see Prop. 8, page 2

Cal Poly student and veteran looks to connect with others

Megan Hassler

MUSTANG DAILY

Thunder and lightning filled the sky. It was predicted to be the worst rain in 60 years. The two privates had only ponchos and whatever materials they could gather to build the makeshift tent, which had to be camouflaged and low to the ground.

In the morning, Private Max Gross looked to his fellow soldier and said "So, Grothaus, did that lightning last night scare you?"

His companion admitted sheepishly that it had, and Gross continued, "Yeah when that lightning struck you kind of hopped back a little bit. It was kind of cute."

Private Jesse Grothaus couldn't help but laugh in spite of himself.

Such comradery is what Grothaus left behind when he finished basic training at Fort Benning, Ga. to come to Cal Poly.

After finishing training in August 2008, Grothaus enrolled at Cal Poly as an economics major. Yet despite

becoming involved in Poly Reps and Week of Welcome, he still felt there was something missing from his life. He knew that his adjustment to college would not be the same as the majority of freshmen, who come straight from high school.

Looking to find others with a common bond, Grothaus wanted to start a club on campus for other young veterans such as himself.

"A lot of military guys have this comradery and brotherhood that was extremely prevalent in the military life, but when we come to the civilian college world it is not the same. I wanted to provide the opportunity to get a taste of that back," he said.

However, when he took the first step to get the club established, he hit a roadblock.

The biggest problem he encountered was not writing the club's by-laws, working with Veteran's Affairs or any of the paperwork. It was simply finding names behind the eight

see Veterans, page 2



COURTESY PHOTO

Economics freshman Jesse Grothaus is attempting to start a Cal Poly club for military veterans.

Prop. 8

continued from page 1

what the justices said last year when they originally allowed gay marriage, I thought there was no way they were going to go back on that, but the decision today lit a fire inside myself. Now I'm fighting harder than I did prior because it's just a matter of time until I'm afforded the rights of everyone else."

David Kilburn, San Luis Obispo's chapter leader of Marriage Equality USA, said that although he and his husband get to keep their marriage, it's unfair that same-sex couples do not have the opportunity to marry.

"I'm not giving it up, but at the same time, it has a whole different meaning now that I know that we've been forced into a situation of having a special right," he said. "We didn't ask for a special right. We asked for marriage equality. That's all we wanted."

The crowd at Mitchell Park waved signs supporting same-sex marriage at oncoming cars and

members of various organizations dedicated their support.

Helen Carroll, a clergywoman from the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of San Luis Obispo County, offered words of encouragement to the crowd and led all participants in a prayer. Carroll emphasized that she is one of many church affiliates who supports marriage equality.

"The court made the decision that they thought best met the people's wishes," Carroll said. "What the decision did, beyond disappointing me, was gave me a road map for how it is to go about making justice. That road map involved changing the constitution. I have already made a covenant that I will not sanctify marriages by signing certificates until I can sign them for everyone."

A few Proposition 8 supporters were present as well. Rather than approaching the matter from a religious angle, they argued that the group at Mitchell Park should respect the decision made by California voters.

"People voted twice on this

issue," San Luis Obispo resident Dane Senser said. "To me, it's not about equality. I believe there is plenty of equality. It's not about being homophobic or anything else ... How many times do you have to vote on this? You have to go with the will of the people."

Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, Maine and Iowa have legalized same-sex marriage and Vermont will be added to the list in September.

But supporters of gay marriage in California are hopeful, like Devin Ward, a teacher in Santa Maria, who was wearing a shirt that read "No More Mr. Nice Gay."

"There's a momentum. A momentum that cannot be denied that's happening slowly but surely throughout the country," Ward said.

Supporters from California and around the nation will meet in Fresno this Saturday for the Meet in the Middle 4 Equality conference — the next step at organizing grassroots efforts for legalizing gay marriage.

Veterans

continued from page 1

signatures that Associated Students Inc. requires to start a club.

While there are about 90 student veterans on campus, Grothaus is unable to receive their names due to campus policies and Federal Law, according to administrative support coordinator Steven Chandler, a veterans certifying official.

Although Grothaus already knew one Marine veteran, agricultural business freshman Scott Somersett, he was unsure how he would find seven others. The two students knew they had a large task ahead but didn't see it as impossible. Somersett said he hoped the club would be a helpful way to connect with and have support from fellow student veterans, while also being more informed about the benefits that are available to them.

"Even if we aren't in the same branch, we all think the same way and do things in a very similar fashion," he said. "We just wanted to have a community with military personnel so we could connect."

At San Jose State University, Grothaus' friend and Army combat medic and journalism freshman Canh Heewah Ha said the veterans club at his school offers tips for how to best use the services provided for student veterans, help with documents and forms, priority registration and group support.

He said that club provides a space for people who have had similar experiences to share their feelings, struggles and achievements. Grothaus continues to look to start such a club at Cal Poly

and has now recruited five interested veterans.

Students often don't understand the difference between being in the Army Reserves and being in the Reserves Officers' Training Corps, he said. ROTC trains student cadets to become officers, or second lieutenants. After graduation they must serve either four years of active duty or eight years in the National Guard or the reserves.

Army Reserves recruits go through four and a half years of training one weekend per month or two weeks per year. Depending on the route they take after training, they will most likely become sergeants, under command of officers from the ROTC.

Yet Grothaus said he would never trade the bonds he made as an Army Reserve for the title of an officer. He calls himself a "doer" of the Army rather than a leader, and is happy with his role.

And he smiles from ear to ear when reminiscing about the person who he was closest to in basic training, his bunkmate and "battle buddy" Max Gross.

"Every time we went to formation he would always be to my left," he said. "Every time we went and had a meal he would always be the person behind me. Every time we did any kind of training he was always my battle buddy. We shot next to each other; we stuck each other with IVs."

His challenge now is in finding new friends who can share those same memories.

Grothaus needs two more signatures to establish an official club. He can be contacted via e-mail at jgrothau@calpoly.edu.

MUSTANG DAILY CORRECTIONS

The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the neighboring community. We appreciate your readership and are thankful for your careful reading. Please send your correction suggestions to mustangdaily@gmail.com.

• An article in last Friday's edition incorrectly referred to two members of Sigma Phi Epsilon as members of Sigma Alpha Epsilon.

Sigma Phi Epsilon, the fraternity who organized a philanthropic fight night on Sunday, is not connected to the other front page story about Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity members being arrested in connection with freshman Carson Starkey's alleged hazing-related death.

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TWO-PART SERIES

Afghan students see their education as a opportunity to rebuild their country



CASSANDRA J. CARLSON MUSTANG DAILY

Farida, left, and Ulker, right, are part of a Cal Poly pilot program, Afghan Education Outreach, which offers educational opportunities for the next generation of Afghan women.

Cassandra J. Carlson
MUSTANG DAILY

Editor's note: Part I of this series ran May 14 and focused on two Afghan students who came to the United States as part of a Cal Poly pilot project called Afghan Educational Outreach. This is the rest of their story.

Under the Taliban's rule

In the swarm of T-shirts and jeans sported by the average Cal Poly student, both Afghan students Farida and Ulker blend into the college landscape, free of their traditional burqas.

Ulker wore the burqa — a cloaking garment worn by women of Islamic traditions — for eight years after the Taliban arrived in her hometown during her teen years. Ulker, now 23 years old, continued to wear the burqa of her own accord after the Taliban left until the end of

2004 when she arrived in Kabul.

Farida and her cousin gave a tour of Kabul to Ulker during her first time outside without a burqa. She admits to not recognizing any city landmarks during their outing.

"All (I did) was try to cover my face. I wasn't comfortable. When I had my burqa on I knew what I was doing," Ulker said. "When the Taliban were gone it was my own choice (to wear the burqa). I was much more comfortable buying stuff and talking with shopkeepers and if I could go every day nobody would know who I was. (I was) invisible."

Over the past 30 years, Afghanistan has gone through drastic political change, with decades of government instability as it moved through Soviet occupation and then withdrawal, followed by the Taliban's reign. The wardrobe of Afghanistan's women has been one example of this change; in contrast to what her daughter felt

she had to wear under Taliban rule, Ulker's mom wore dresses as short as Western mini-skirts during her 20s.

"We have a cultural tradition that a woman should be covered," Ulker said. "They (are) more private and now, all of the sudden, everything is open with your daughter going to school. To them it's too extreme. It's not like after the Taliban everything become extremely hard for people. It was before we had Kings that tried to have their own way."

Women's education

Afghanistan's constant instability created many problems in the region. Network news constantly reports on insurgency movements in the region, the United States occupation of Afghanistan and — more recently — women's rights. Front covers of The New York Times tell stories of Afghan school girls poisoned with gas and acid thrown in their faces to intimidate them from going to school. Ulker does not challenge these reports, admitting to the challenges that surround her tumultuous home country.

Both Farida and Ulker say that there are some families that encourage girls to go to school and some families that strongly disagree with female education.

"It's very important for (some Afghan) kids, to study and get an education and (then) there are other tribes in rural places in Afghanistan that don't (believe in that)," Farida said. "If you are the only one who lets their daughter go to school it's shameful for them."

Ulker agrees. "My dad is from a small village that doesn't let their daughters go to school," she said. "They think that if they let their daughters go to school then one day they will come back and they'll be the ones to control their dads and

moms and they don't like the idea of their daughters standing up to them.

"It's funny that each part of Afghanistan, each city, each house you go to — it's a different case and different history going on between them. I cannot generalize. I cannot judge Afghanistan. I can (analyze) my own family, myself. That's all I can do. It's very complicated," Ulker said.

Their future and the future of Afghanistan

Both women say their Cal Poly degrees will be significantly advantageous when they return to Afghanistan to work. The knowledge of their own language and English will also give them a competitive edge for jobs in Afghanistan. The women hope to get master's degrees after their receive their bachelor's, either at Cal Poly or elsewhere.

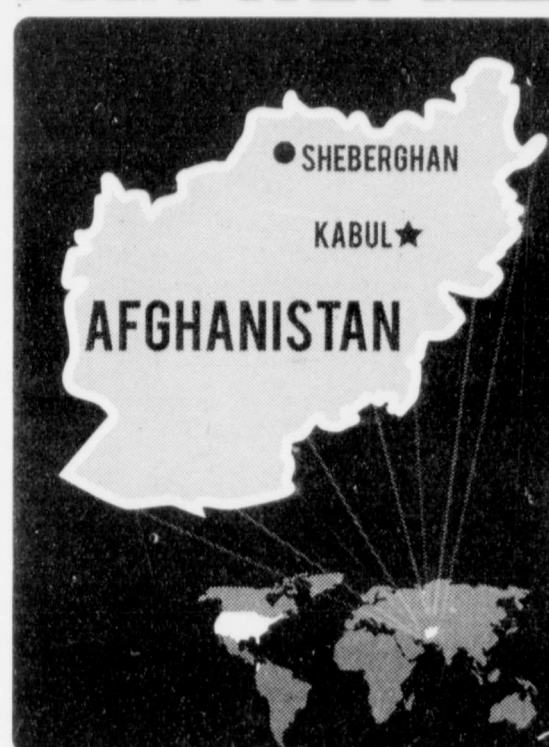
Ulker says they will probably look for work within non-governmental organizations and other Afghan companies, but admits to some hardships among Afghans getting jobs.

"The problem is now in Afghanistan there are immigrants from the Philippines, from China, from around the world who cannot find a job in their own country," Ulker said. "U.S. bases are around so it's easy to find these people since they know English and know how to use the computers."

Upon expected graduation in June of 2010, the women say they are unsure but optimistic of their personal futures and the future of their country.

"(Afghans) are ready to accept the change. It's very easy to get Afghan people to accept change. You could not believe (after the Taliban

CAL POLY PROFILE



left) it was the same country you saw three months before but now it's going backward because the Taliban are coming back strongly," Farida said. "People are scared but Afghan people are happy. People are always singing and dancing on the streets of Afghanistan."

Farida and Ulker have only been back to Afghanistan once for a short vacation, but they do feel hopeful about the challenges that lie ahead for their country. One thing they want to change is the perception that their country is a terrorist, drug-dealing country. As Afghans, they want to be known for something else.

"We are the happiest people. I want to tell people that we are very positive and optimistic and we all have goals. We all want our country to improve and someday compete with other countries around the world," Farida said. "(Ulker and I) are studying ag business and we are going to go back home and change something. We have goals."



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Briefs

State

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — A Bay Area Rapid Transit officer says an unarmed black man who was fatally shot by another officer failed to comply with her commands before he was killed.

BART Officer Marysol Domenici testified Tuesday during the fourth day of a hearing to determine whether former Officer Johannes Mehserle will stand trial for murder in the death of Oscar Grant. The 22-year-old Grant was killed at an Oakland BART station in the early morning of New Year's Day.

Domenici says Grant and his friends would not listen to her as she repeatedly told them to sit down on a train station platform moments before Mehserle shot and killed Grant.

Mehserle's lawyer Michael Rains says his client intended to use his stun gun and didn't intend to shoot Grant.

National

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon is prepared to leave fighting forces in Iraq for as long as a decade despite an agreement between the United States and Iraq that would bring all American troops home by 2012, the top U.S. Army officer said Tuesday.

Gen. George Casey, the Army chief of staff, said the world remains dangerous and unpredictable, and the Pentagon must plan for extended U.S. combat and stability operations in two wars. "Global trends are pushing in the wrong direction," Casey said. "They fundamentally will change how the Army works."

He spoke at an invitation-only briefing to a dozen journalists and policy analysts from Washington-based think-tanks. He said his planning envisions combat troops in Iraq and Afghanistan for a decade as part of a sustained U.S. commitment to fighting extremism and terrorism in the Middle East.

International

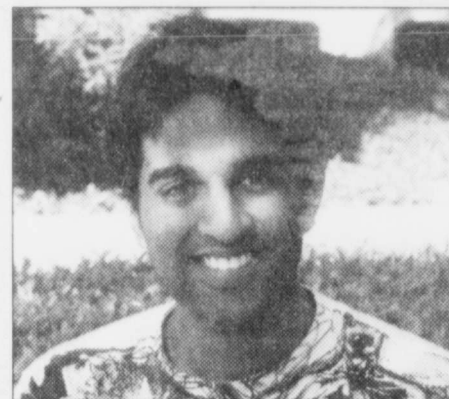
UNITED STATES (AP) — Key world powers started talks Tuesday on a Security Council resolution that could include new sanctions against North Korea, with the United States saying all agreed that Pyongyang's illegal nuclear test must be dealt with "directly and seriously."

Ambassadors from the five permanent veto-wielding council members — the United States, Russia, China, Britain and France — and the two countries most closely affected by the nuclear test, Japan and South Korea, met behind closed doors for more than an hour discussing possibilities for a new resolution.

"I think we are off to a very good start," U.S. Ambassador Susan Rice said afterward on behalf of the group. But she cautioned that the meeting was a first step and that deliberation will "take some time."

WORD ON THE STREET

"What is your reaction to the California Supreme Court's decision on Prop 8?"



"My reaction is disappointment. All those couples able to have legalized marriages but the others who don't have the possibility of (marriage) seems unfair."

-Monasa Chandra,
biology senior

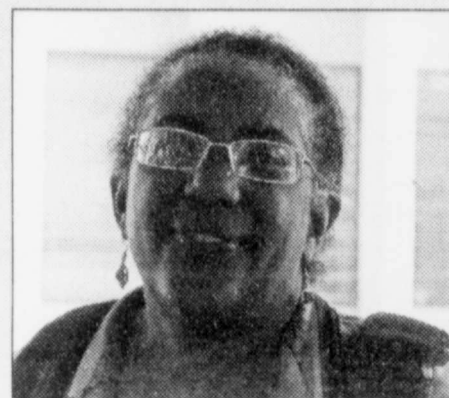
"At least they kept the ones that were already married. I think that is ridiculous that they say it doesn't violate constitution of equality."

-Megan Nutt,
electrical engineering senior



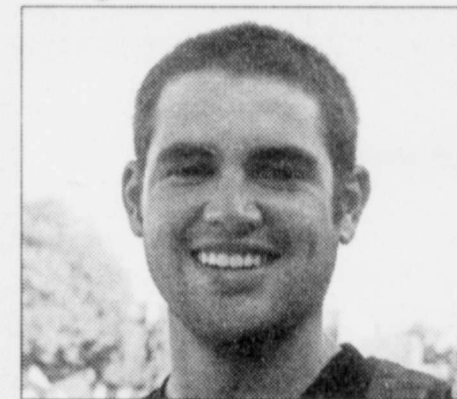
"I strongly believe in voting rights as American citizens. I agree with upholding the vote citizens have made because it is a vote people can turn around and put it on the ballot again."

-Lori Atwater,
general engineering junior



"It's against my religion so I'm definitely not for it."

-Anthony Martin,
dairy science junior



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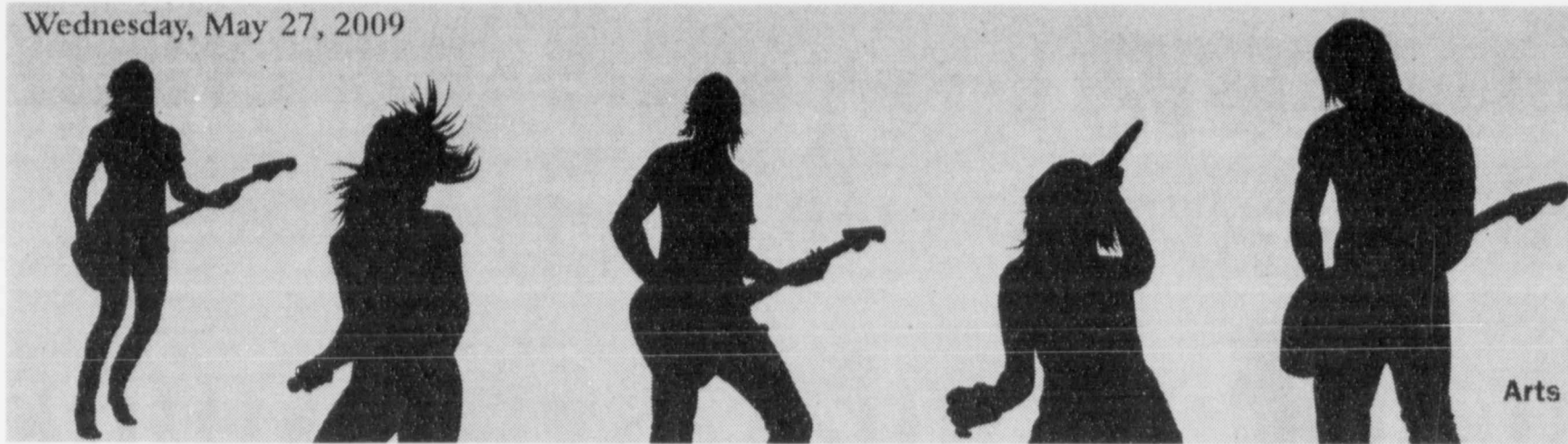
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beer column

New Belgium: Save the environment, enjoy good beer

Green beer isn't just a Saint Patrick's Day occurrence anymore.

Now, I don't mean green-colored beer; but a few breweries have sacrificed their own profit margins for the sake of environmental conservation.

One of those breweries, New Belgium in Fort Collins, Colo., has become the standard for environmentally conscious breweries in the United States.

Almost every beer drinker in San Luis Obispo has had a Fat Tire at some point. It's one of the more popular beers in the western part of the country. But you may not be aware of how that unique beer got such a strange name.

Jeff Lebesch, fresh off completing his electrical engineering degree, was on a trip to Belgium to try some of his favorite brews as a last hurrah before embarking on his career.

Lebesch was an amateur brewer and he really wanted to compare notes on some recipes so he could perfect his craft when he got home.

Lebesch took his new mountain

bike to get around on his trip; even then he was environmentally conscious.

The Belgians had never seen this style of mountain bike and asked him, "Where'd you get the bike with the fat tires?"

Several years later, with his amber ale perfected he called upon that memory and the beer that would catapult him to brewing fame was born.

While the bike on the Fat Tire logo may be the symbol that people equate to his brewery, it symbolizes much more to Lebesch.

When I took a tour of the New Belgium brewery earlier this year, the guide made it clear that they hope to be completely reliant on wind energy very soon. They even produce some of their own energy in the form of methane gas that is a byproduct of their on-site water treatment plant and they pay a higher rate to the electric company in order to use cleaner energy sources.

I know what you're thinking. "Enough about the stupid energy, what about the beer?"

Well, I'm glad that you asked. New Belgium makes some very high quality products to go along with their signature Fat Tire.

My girlfriend, who lives in Colorado and took me on my New Belgium tour, got a keg of their Sunshine Wheat for her college graduation. Let me tell you, the only thing that impressed me more than her family's ability to drink was the quality of the beer.

The beer looked like sunshine when poured. It came out in a smooth yellow and my goodness was it tasty. We sat out on the deck and enjoyed glass after glass of it.

Some beers start to get stale after you've had a pint or two. Well, Sunshine Wheat never got old.

I might even say it was the second best keg beer I've had behind Lost Coast's Great White. I drank so much beer that night that I don't even remember a large portion of the evening.

New Belgium makes a ton of seasonals and special recipes all the time.

In true New Belgium fashion,

they also brew a completely organic wheat beer called Mothership Wit.

But my favorite New Belgium recipe is actually their dark-brewed 1554. It is one of the most unique dark beers I've had. Trust me, I don't like many porters and I absolutely despise coffee or smoke-flavored beers which is what I find in the majority of darker beer.

But 1554 is different. It has a slight chocolate malt flavor but not overpoweringly so.

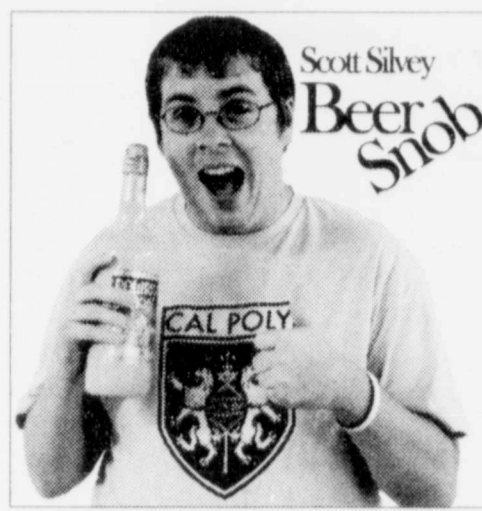
Every person that visits their brewery in Fort Collins is treated to a free tasting whether they take the tour or not. The tasting consists of four 4-ounce servings.

So if you live in Fort Collins you can go in and get a free pint every single day. Hell, I might move up to Colorado just for that.

But if you thought the free beer was good, listen to the perks of the employees.

On their first day of employment they are given the key to the brewery. They are also given stock in the brewery on day one.

After a year, employees are given



a custom-made bike straight out off the Fat Tire bottle. After year five, all employees join Lebesch on a tour of Belgium, mimicking his earlier fateful journey. Except this time, it's all expenses paid. Someone sign me up at this brewery please.

If you're itching for a new beer, give some of New Belgium's "other" brews a try. They're unique, they're tasty and they're good for the environment.

Scott Silvey is a journalism senior, the Mustang Daily sports editor and beer critic.



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Byzantium unveils 'Keeper of the Story' tonight

Jennifer Titcomb

MUSTANG DAILY

Years from now when we are too old to remember the school work we did during our college days, Cal Poly students will be able to look back and read the creative efforts of students in 2009.

'Keeper of the Story' is the theme for this year's edition of Byzantium, Cal Poly's student written, edited and designed literary magazine.

"What we wanted to stress this year was the importance of preserving literature and passing it on from generation to generation," said Erin Santos, an English senior and co-editor. "Byzantium is kind of Cal Poly's legacy; it protects our literature and passes it on and people can be a part of it and also look back at past volumes."

The title Byzantium comes from the William Butler Yeats poem "Sailing to Byzantium."

"For him it was a place where artistic and philosophic achievement happened," said English senior and co-editor Emily Anderson.

Students have been contributing to Byzantium since it began in 1991. For the editors and art director it serves as a senior project.

Illustrations for the magazine were done by art and design senior Shelby Moulden, who also looked to Yeats' poem and research of Byzantium for inspiration.

"He took a lot of time to really study the Byzantine Empire and it was really a lot of looking at the armor to protect and the time period," Santos said. "They were protecting the treasures of that time period just like this is protecting ours."

Moulden said he wanted the book to be valued by its owners.

"We wanted the book to be kind of like this treasure that people can appreciate and be like, 'Oh, this is a treasure. I want to take this book and read it because there is something great inside it,'" he said.

The artwork combines ornate lettering with swirly patterns and decorations resembling those of ancient Byzantium and Turkish medieval times that were based off the church of Hagia Sophia

in Istanbul, Turkey.

The length of Byzantium allowed for Moulden to expand his creativity.

"Usually in art classes you only make a 20 page book and here is a 150 page book. It was phenomenal to research about the Byzantine Empire because it was really cool and the art is really pretty," Moulden said.

As always, Byzantium includes the top three winning entries in both poetry and fiction from the Al Landwehr Creative Writing Contest. The winners are selected by four English professors with backgrounds in each particular writing style.

This year's edition is longer than previous years and will include even more fiction and poetry with additional editor's choice selections.

English freshman Cameron Simpson, whose short story "Stavi Caltero is Hungry" won first place in the fiction category, said the win was unexpected.

"I was hoping for honorable mention," he said. "I hadn't taken any creative writing classes yet so I wasn't really sure if I was doing it correctly; it was just more of a hobby for me. It was a pleasant surprise."

His story is about a Catholic priest who is also a cannibal. Simpson described the story as a little risqué.

"I just thought it would be funny to think about the idea of transubstantiation and the Catholic belief that the wafer at communion actually becomes the body of Christ and how if someone was a cannibal that would be a temptation to them and it sort of went from there," he said.

English graduate student Dylan Bowes won the poetry category with his poem "Hannah." The name represents what his parents would have named him if he had been a girl or had a sister.

"My poem is about the sort of a desire for a connection with someone of the opposite sex and how not growing up with a sister creates problems for relating to a girl and the ultimate failure of romantic relationships to satisfy that lack," he said.

Contributors to Byzantium have the freedom to write about any topic or theme they choose.

Santos said some of this year's subject matter for the short stories included the idea of second chances, the issue of cutting and another about a boy with an alcoholic mother and what it is like for him to learn to fend for himself.

"The poetry we have is such a wide variety; we have the writing itself, relationships, rape, sex, going insane on Monday mornings," she said.

The community will have a chance to hear these stories and poems read aloud during a special unveiling at 7 p.m. Wednesday at Steynberg Gallery. Copies of the magazine will be given out at the unveiling.

This is the second year Byzantium has been available for free. Loverspeak, a poetry reading in February, helped raise funds for printing 1,500 copies of the magazine as well as restaurant fundraising and advertisements.

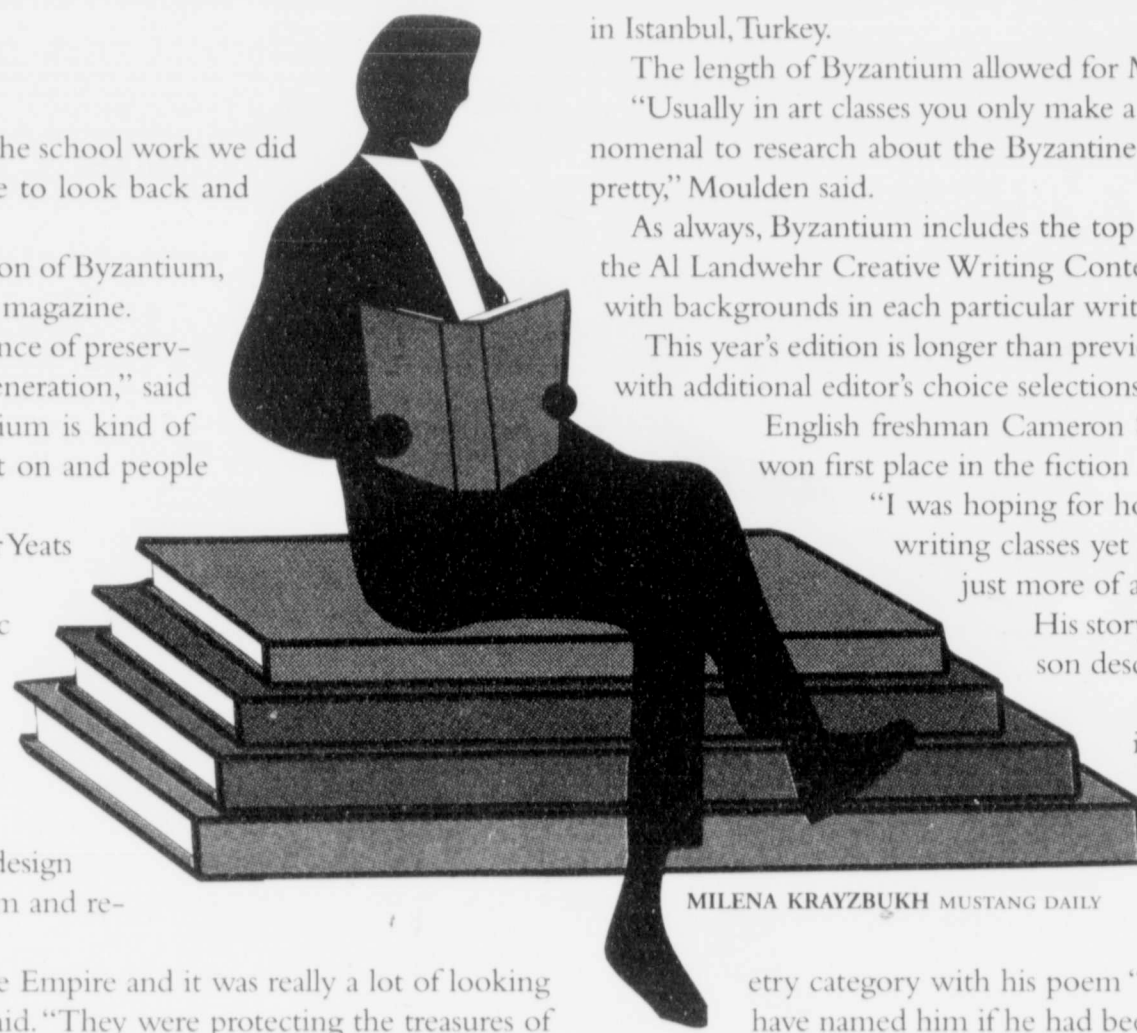
"When you work hard and get to see your actual words in print in a little book it's pretty exhilarating the first time it happens; it's really neat," said Cody Morales, an English senior and author of third place "A Second Chance."

After the unveiling, Byzantium will be available on campus. Santos said tables will be set up in the English building, education building and possibly Campus Market and the University Union.

"I would just be happy if lots of students were curious (and) picked it up recognizing that we do have a journal and that our students are really talented and that there is a lot going on in the creative writing part of Cal Poly because a lot of times it gets ignored or forgotten," said English graduate student Sarah Suksiri, writer of the second place fiction story "The People, You Know."

English graduate student and author of second place poem "Maybe She Reached the Sea" Helen Knight echoed that sentiment.

"It is neat to see this kind of art happening in this community and on this campus and each work has some kind of significance it is trying to get across and maybe that will positively affect someone that reads it here and maybe it will inspire other people to write poetry or submit to the contest."



MILENA KRAYZBUKH MUSTANG DAILY

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slam poets take over chumash for third year of anthem

Ashley Ciullo
MUSTANG DAILY

Seven of the nation's most accomplished slam poets will come together as part of Cal Poly's third annual poetry slam "The Anthem" tonight. With the goal of showing that words have enough power to change the world, the event will present poets who are champions from the international slam circuit, including some who have performed on HBO's Def Poetry Jam and National Public Radio. The show will address issues of gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, race, class, identity and love.

"It's not poetry like you think of poetry; it's in your face, political, controversial and really entertaining," journalism senior and Anthem Committee member Rachel Gellman said.

"It is supposed to show Cal Poly students that what they say can make a difference. Poetry in general is a very different avenue of expression and I think the Anthem is a great source for people to learn," she said.

The competition, sponsored by the Cal Poly English department and the College of Liberal Arts, was influenced by the Another Type of Groove performances put on by Associated Students Inc. every month. However, instead of featuring just one poet, the committee expanded the event to feature several from around the country. It drew more than 1,000 students and community members to the Cal Poly campus last year.

English graduate student and committee head Sarah Suksuri said the Anthem is different and unique every year.

"This year is going to be even more amazing than the last two," she said. "As it grows, more nationally recognized poets are joining the event and getting excited about it. We get more audience members every year."

"The experience is going to resonate with people differently," Gellman added. "I think it's hard to argue that people won't be inspired."

The Anthem Committee, which has been planning the event since the beginning of winter quarter, is composed of several students that represent a wide variety of majors, including art and design and graphic communications. It has a few major criteria for picking the performers. "The main criteria for selecting poets is that the Cal Poly student body would be interested in hearing what they have to say," Gellman said.

The master of ceremonies will be Derrick Brown, a winner of the 2004 California Independent Book Critics' Award as well as six first-place poetry slams from around the world. Brown has performed at over 1,200 international venues, including the "Tonight Show with Jay Leno," the Nuyorican Poets Café in NYC and La Sorbonne in Paris. In addition to last year's champions Tara Hardy and Alvin Lau, first-time participants Shira Erlichman, Chinaka Hodge, George Watsky and Poetri will perform.

Hardy, a self-described working-class queer femme poet and teacher from Seattle, Washington, is the founder and creative director of Bent, a writing institute for LGBTIQ people. Hardy was named Seattle's Poet Populist, or poet of the people, by the city council in 2002, the same year that she won the Seattle Grand Slam Champion title. Each poet will perform for two to four minutes in a total of three rounds. Four audience members, chosen on the day of the event, judge the poets on content, performance and time limit.

Gellman said that poetry, with plays on words and rhyming, provides new avenues to get a point across. "Musically, it's like hip-hop in a sense that you can listen and not necessarily pay attention to all the words but it will still sound amazing. When you actually hear what these poets are saying it's almost hard to believe that they can make the poems sound so good and still have a message. It has a lot of substance," she said.

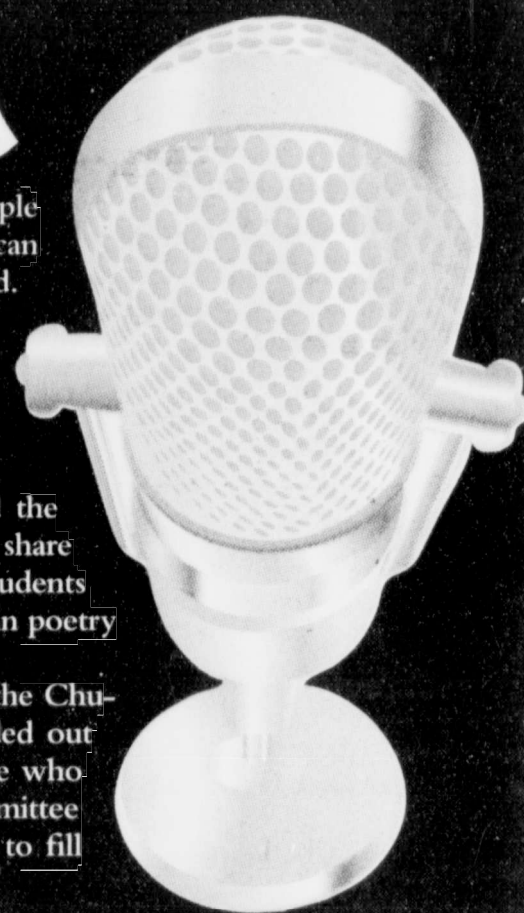
Besides providing entertainment, Gellman said that the Anthem

might also reveal creative career opportunities. "People don't have to just write essays for school. They can write performance poems that will inspire," she said.

"If you're interested in seeing how powerful words can be and how poets can take the form of poetry to a higher level, come to the Anthem. It's a great event for anyone interested in opening their mind to new things," Gellman said.

Anthem committee chair Sarah Suksuri echoed the sentiment. "This event provides the opportunity to share issues that are important to our generation with students who may not even have otherwise been interested in poetry at all," she said.

The Anthem will be held from 7 to 10 p.m. in the Chumash Auditorium today. Free T-shirts will be handed out to the first 25 audience members as well as anyone who purchases poets' merchandise. The Anthem Committee suggests arriving early because seats are expected to fill up fast.



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Mustang Daily

"It's not 'Transformers and friends.'"

Memorial Day should focus on sacrifices, not victories

As a member of a military family that has served honorably for generations, I have a deep respect for Memorial Day, both its significance and symbolism. I humbly acknowledge that there are countless men and women no longer with us who have supremely earned both our remembrance and respect this day.

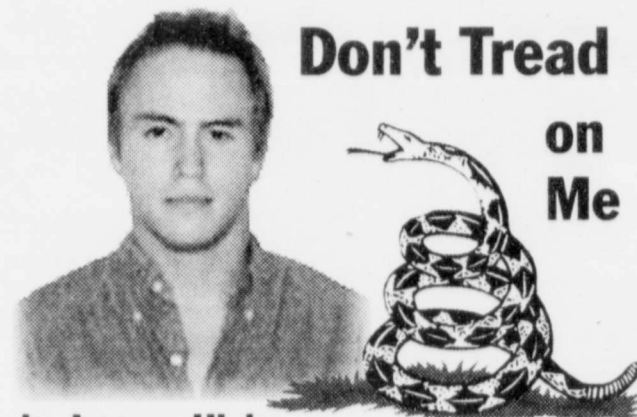
But I am troubled at what a mess the government makes of this holiday. You see, Memorial Day is drenched in patriotic sentiment and unfortunately, such fervor is often taken advantage of and misdirected by the state. There is no human emotion which can be of greater value to the state authorities. Pericles knew its power and masterfully directed it, as did Napoleon, Stalin, Roosevelt and Bush.

Obama, too, knows its power and he, like many other politicians before him, has paid the dutiful and predictable homage that Americans have come to expect from their leaders on Memorial Day.

Sadly, on a day which should be reserved for mourning the enormous costs imposed by the government's wars on individuals and their families, the government self-servingly uses this day to sing its own praises. Let me take you through the idiocies of a typical Memorial Day speech, whether it is made by Obama, your mayor or your pastor.

First, there is the error of sweepingly characterizing deceased soldiers as built of the same selfless, sacrificial stock, as though they all died doing noble deeds and thinking noble thoughts. No matter what war the politician is talking about, no matter the diverse situations, the various martial objectives, the soldier is always and unfailingly depicted as being comprised of the same pure, sacrificial nature.

But surely this is not true. Common experience tells us that very few people live the same way and even fewer think the same way. There is no such thing as an 'Army of One.' Men, even men harnessed beneath a common yoke, do not lose their individuality. Good men go to war just as bad men do. Noble men and ignoble men too. War is not a redeemer of men. The battlefield



by Jeremy Hicks

does not purify sinful men and make them holy. If anything, the battlefield smears bloody stains on both the good and the bad alike. Surely, the scrupulous on the battlefield are aware of this cruel perversity of war and troubled by it.

It is also an utter falsehood that all soldiers die nobly. Worse, it is an insult to those who truly did die with distinction and honor. To lump all soldiers in the same class, as though the mere act of showing up with a rifle is all that is needed to earn military medals and public esteem, is a gross misconception and distortion of what it means to fight bravely and admirably.

We ought instead to admit that soldiers die like the rest of us: scared, helpless, confused, and wishing desperately for a chance to change the past, or to make better in the future. But the soldier's death is surely worse than ours, with every grief and torment being compounded by the trauma, terror and sadness that accompanies war.

There is another erroneous point about soldiers dying for the rest of us that they are dying in order that we might live one more day in peace and security. The notion that the blood of American soldiers is being spilt, and needs to be spilt, in order to purchase the rest of us one more sweet day of peace is a very Orwellian concept, which should shock and offend the deepest notion of common sense and morality in all of us. Still, we should not be at all surprised that the paradoxical "war is peace" mentality is so readily

adopted by the state. As it has been famously said, war is the health of the state.

But what is the health of the state is the death of the people. That which enables and promotes the health of the state is quite unhealthy for the individual. Wars and conquest allow the state to expand and solidify its high station of dominance. But for people it is the opposite. Wars do not make the world healthier and happier; the world grows sicker and sadder because of them.

Lastly, there is this related notion that soldiers die not just to promote our security, but also our freedoms. This is surely the most objectively falsifiable claim of all. Examine any war you wish in history. The individual freedoms, like freedom of speech, association, etc., always contract. The recent war is only one in a long series that has conformed to this generality. War is a convenient and convincing excuse to limit and remove the rights which Americans hold most dear, the rights which, oddly enough, America's wars are intended supposedly to secure.

Memorial Day is a worthy holiday, and one that I believe Americans do well to give pause and reflection to. But this is not a day to celebrate wars or even fallen warriors. It is a day which we must mourn them both. As we listen to all the emotional and grand speeches, we must be discerning and not mistake idiotic utterances lined with wreaths as a fitting tribute for our nation's soldiers. We must not gullibly believe that all soldiers have died for proper and noble causes. We must remember that nations, even ours, sometimes, if not frequently, go to war for wrong and selfish reasons. And we must not, above all, mistake patriotism as a willingness or obligation to go to war. True patriotism must ever bear in mind the immense and incalculable costs that war incurs, not on the State, but on ordinary people. Finally, we must remember this day not to celebrate what wars have gained us, but instead all that we have lost by them.

Jeremy Hicks is a 2008 political science graduate, the founder of the Cal Poly Libertarian Club and a Mustang Daily political columnist.

Reader responses to arrest of students in Carson Starkey case:

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Starkey responsible for his own death

There, I said it. He was responsible for his own death. Two recent reader comments in the Mustang Daily pointed the blame exclusively towards the Greeks and "binge drinking." However, these claims are ridiculous. Firstly, how can we blame "binge drinking" as the first comment does? "Bad binge drinking, please stop killing people?" Should we chastise it and shake our fingers at it so that it stops harming people? Clearly binge drinking is someone's fault other than its own.

The Greeks do have some responsibility in the matter, but should not be held accountable. The fact of the matter is that Carson chose to be at that party and chose to drink what was offered him, fully knowing the dangers that accompany frat parties. Apparently,

those hazing him made a mistake and should feel guilty about it, but are not ultimately responsible. Carson had the freewill to not drink what was offered him, peer pressure or not. This is not comparable to rape victims since these victims are forced into the act, unlike the case of Carson. He should have looked out for his own safety by perhaps refusing to

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drink more or avoiding the party altogether. Everyone should take responsibility for their direct actions even if someone else involved made a poor decision as well. In this case, multiple parties made poor decisions, but the victim is ultimately responsible for his death.

Aaron Baldwin
electrical engineering sophomore



Who is going to pay for these two people that they are hiring? That better not be coming out of what I pay. It seems that Greek organizations are a large liability and expense for the campus, so why bother having them at all especially at a time when money is so tight?

—AM
Response to "Four SAE members charged in hazing death"

I think it is ridiculous that you guys put their mugshots in this article. Carson chose to drink. These boys lives are officially ruined because of the guilt they feel about this event. I know these boys personally and I also knew Carson. This situation is hard on everybody involved and this article seems very one sided. I don't think the Mustang Daily should have posted their photos because now

everywhere these boys go they will be looked at differently. Now, their names are on the internet and even if they do not get convicted they can still be seen by future employers and other citizens as nothing more than this. No matter where they go now, they will be seen as guilty in the public's eyes because they now know what these boys look like. I understand trying to keep the public informed, but Mustang Daily you have gone too far. Think about the lives of these boys and the guilt they feel, and maybe you will rethink showing their pictures in the Mustang Daily. I love these boys and Carson was a sweetheart, but ruining four more young men's lives will not solve anything.

—Chelsea
Response to "Four Cal Poly students charged in Starkey's death"

They have been charged with hazing and providing alcohol to a minor. These laws were well-known in the Greek community. If they chose to break those laws, which a court will decide, then they deserve to be subject to the punishment established by the law.

—Randy
Response to "Four Cal Poly students charged in Starkey's death"

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Girls & Sports by Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



The New York Times Crossword

Note: When this puzzle is done, the nine circles will contain the letters A through I. Connect them with a line, in alphabetical order, and you will form an illustration of the puzzle's theme.

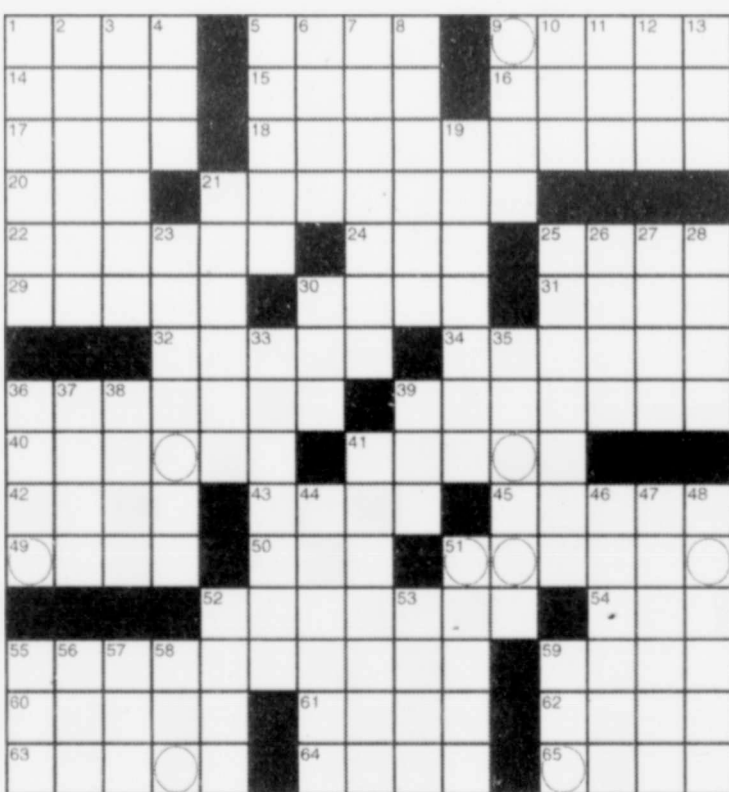
- Across**
- 1 A Morse "I" consists of two
 - 5 Penultimate fairy tale word
 - 9 Deadly snake
 - 14 "Climb Mountain"
 - 15 Long skirt
 - 16 Break point
 - 17 With 59-Across, A-B-C-A in the illustration
 - 18 Ship in "Pirates of the Caribbean"
 - 20 Stop ___ dime
 - 21 Half of a mountaineering expedition
 - 22 Dressed like a certain keg party attendee
 - 24 Prefix with lateral
 - 25 F-G
 - 29 Ship's christening, e.g.
 - 30 C-D
- Down**
- 31 "___ expert, but ..."
 - 32 Certain California wines
 - 34 Pirating
 - 36 "Top Hat" dancer
 - 39 Does some electrical work on
 - 40 Counterpart of an angel
 - 41 Santa-tracking org.
 - 42 End in ___
 - 43 A-B
 - 45 Send, as payment
 - 49 E-F-G-H-E
 - 50 Part of U.C.L.A.
 - 51 Brainstorm
 - 52 People in fierce snowball fights
 - 54 Yearbook sect.
 - 55 Ship to the New World
 - 59 See 17-Across
 - 60 Ancient theater
 - 61 Makeup of some little balls
- Down**
- 1 Bump down but keep on
 - 2 Chekhov play or its antithero
 - 3 "M*A*S*H" procedure
 - 4 Lexicographical abbr.
 - 5 Incorporate, as a YouTube video into a Web site
 - 6 Actor Kilmer and others
 - 7 Horse-race bets on win and place
 - 8 Kitchen gadgets
 - 9 Hook or Cook: Abbr.
 - 10 Tribute with feet
 - 11 Deadly snake
 - 12 1921 play that introduced the word "robot"
 - 13 One of the oceans: Abbr.
 - 19 One who may put you in stitches?
 - 21 Part of a larger picture
 - 23 Poe's "___ Lee"
 - 25 "Don't Go Breaking My Heart" duettist, 1976
 - 26 Mideast V.I.P.
 - 27 Cousin of -trix
 - 28 Old shipbuilding needs

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

T	A	C	O	S	M	A	R	T	A	B	R	A
A	L	A	N	P	U	S	H	I	B	E	E	P
T	I	N	K	E	R	S	H	O	R	T	S	T
A	T	A	P	R	I	C	E	R	O	A	S	T
E	V	E	R	S	E	C	O	N	D	B	A	S
N	E	R	V	E	H	O	N	E	S	P	A	
I	T	I	S	T	R	I	M	S	S	P	I	T
A	C	C	O	R	E	L	S	I	C	E	M	
C	H	A	N	C	E	F	I	R	S	T	B	A
U	T	E	S	E	T	O						
O	B	A	M	A	B	R	A	I	N	I	A	C
D	O	U	B	L	E	P	L	A	I	C	O	M
D	A	R	E	G	O	T	T	I	M	A	L	T
S	T	A	R	O	L	S	E	N	E	X	E	S

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 0422



Puzzle by Daniel A. Finan

- 30 Writer Rita ___ Brown
- 33 Leak on a ship, e.g.
- 35 Tournament wrap-up
- 36 Wife of Esau
- 37 In ___ (as found)
- 38 Following detective
- 39 CD-___
- 41 It may be flared
- 44 "Wowie, zowie!"
- 46 "Mississippi" (1992 film)
- 47 Words of resignation
- 48 Magnetic induction units
- 51 Livid
- 52 D- reviews
- 53 Aachen article
- 55 ___ sauce
- 56 Suffix with many fruit names
- 57 Minus: Abbr.
- 58 Dress (up)
- 59 Number on a bottle at the beach

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NBA

continued from page 12

like the real team, they seemed to want it more.

Don't blame Bryant for that. He scored 34 points, including 14 in the fourth quarter, but he could have scored twice that and it probably wouldn't have mattered.

Not when the Nuggets grabbed 20 balls off the offensive boards. Not when they out-rebounded the Lakers by 18 overall and were busier all night than the team tattooist.

Bryant suggested afterward that perhaps his teammates didn't understand the urgency of the situation. They were happy to have won in Denver on Saturday, so they didn't play every possession like it was their last, didn't go sprawling after every loose ball like it was their last.

The Nuggets did, and that's how you win playoff games. It's really no more complicated than that.

"They played harder and they played better. Period," Bryant said.

The top suits at ABC have to be a bit concerned about that because it seemed preordained when these playoffs started so many weeks ago that Kobe and LeBron would meet beginning June 4 in a finals that would match the two best players in the game and draw big ratings.

But if not for an ill advised in-bound pass in Game 1, the Nuggets would likely be up 3-1 in this series. As it is, they head back to Los Angeles with momentum and a growing confidence that they are the better team and that Bryant can't beat them all by himself.

Things are even more precarious in the East, where Cleveland has to win on the road Tuesday night or risk going down 3-1 to the Orlando Magic. Like Bryant, James has been every bit the superstar he is in the series but, like the Lakers, the supporting cast for the Cavaliers has disappeared for long stretches at a time.

James made up for that in Game 2 with a 3-pointer that will live in playoff lore. But even Michael Jordan had to have teammates like Scotty Pippen around to win six NBA titles in the 1990s.

Jordan is selling underwear now and it's been 20 years since his famous shot lifted the Bulls to a first-round win over Cleveland, so a lot of instant historians wanted to declare James' shot as the greatest shot in playoff history. It's certainly in the top 10, but it wasn't that long ago that Derek Fisher and Reggie Miller hit similar shots in crucial playoff games.

That's not what James wants to be remembered for in these playoffs anyway. He knows greatness is always measured against titles and, as dominant as James can be, he has yet to lead the Cavs to a ring.

For James to change that, his teammates must step up and play as hard as he does. The same goes for the Lakers and Bryant, who was so exhausted from leading his team to a win in Game 3 that he needed IV fluids.

If there's one thing these playoffs have shown, it's that one man isn't enough.

Tim Dahlberg is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press.

Round-up

continued from page 12

To determine the champion for the Commissioner's Cup, total points are summed and divided by the number of championships in which each institution competes. Each sport champion is also given a 20-point bonus. The Commissioner's Cup is then awarded to the school with the highest average.

The Mustangs, which won the softball championship, finished second in women's track and field and third in women's tennis, baseball and men's track and field, had the second highest spring average.

Cal Poly finished second in the fall as well with the men's cross country team earning first place points. Women's soccer took second place while the men's soccer team tied for second. Volleyball received third place points.

The 49ers won the 2008-09

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are thinking

MUSTANG DAILY
BLOG
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MUSTANG DAILY CORRECTIONS

The Mustang Daily staff takes pride in publishing a daily newspaper for the Cal Poly campus and the neighboring community. We appreciate your readership and are thankful for your careful reading. Please send your correction suggestions to mustangdaily@gmail.com.

• An article in yesterday's paper incorrectly stated Cal Poly's record as 37-20. The Mustangs are 37-19. A graphical error also incorrectly showed Cal Poly playing Miami on Friday. They instead will play Oral Roberts.

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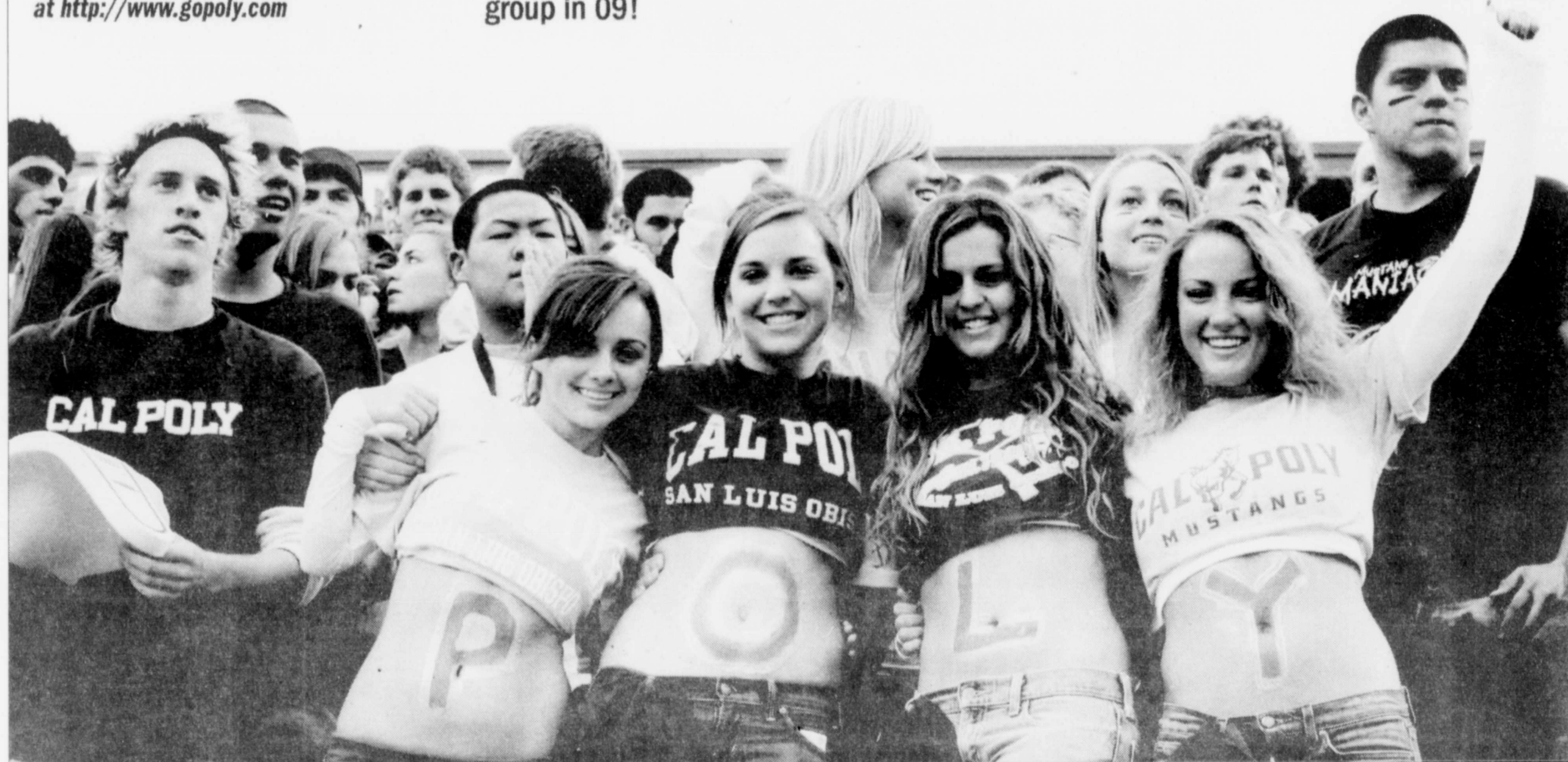
LEAD THE MUSTANG MANIACS!

Apply online under "sprit groups"
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**Open Applications are now being accepted
for students to serve as board members
for the Mustang Maniacs in 2009.**

Anyone is eligible, but only the most spirited and
motivated students will be elected to lead the
group in 09!

Becoming a Maniac means coming together to support one
cause, Cal Poly, and each and every one of the teams on
campus. It is about Mustang students supporting other
Mustang students and means more than just being a fan at a
game - It means being a great fan and showing Mustang
pride and doing it in way that is uplifting to the students, the
campus, and the community.



WE ARE THE MUSTANGS

Baseball, softball hitting high marks

Clinton McGue
MUSTANG DAILY

The synergy between the baseball and softball teams this year has helped motivate them to play some of their best ball in the past 14 years.

Boasting a 41-12 record this year, the softball team completed its most productive season since jumping into Division I in 1995. The baseball squad is following suit and is on pace for its best, carrying a 37-19 record heading into their first Division I postseason appearance.

I think it's really special. They usually do pretty well and we just don't hold up our end of the bargain.

—Kyle Smith
Junior infielder

For these teams to be playing so well simultaneously is rare. The last time both teams have reached more than 35 wins in the same season came in 2000, when they each placed second in the Big West Conference.

"I think it's really special," junior infielder Kyle Smith said. "They

usually do pretty well and we just don't hold up our end of the bargain."

The teams keep close tabs on each other, learning about their successes and failures, but more importantly, taking note of the bar that is set each day.

"For me, it's a little of a competitive edge," senior infielder Melissa Pura said. "I'm like, 'Uh-oh, baseball is doing well? We have to do better than them.'"

It's constructive competition. It's competition in terms of reaching the bar that the other has set, not hoping that the other has lowered it."

Although each Cal Poly team is tied together in some way or another, the softball and baseball teams have a unique relationship based on the similarity of their sports and timing of their schedules.

"Since we play such a similar sport, we relate on similar levels," Pura explained. "And since we have similar training schedules, it's easier to hang out with (base-

ball players)."

A large group of softball players recently attended a critical baseball game (a series-ending game against Cal State Fullerton — a division rival) and were greeted with a standing ovation from fans at the game. It is that appreciation that shows the interest of fans in both sports, junior infielder Krysten Cary said.

"It was definitely a cool moment for us," she said. "To know that we are appreciated like that."

Although the two teams do not share the same field, they play in close quarters and many times can hear shout-outs coming from the other stadium.

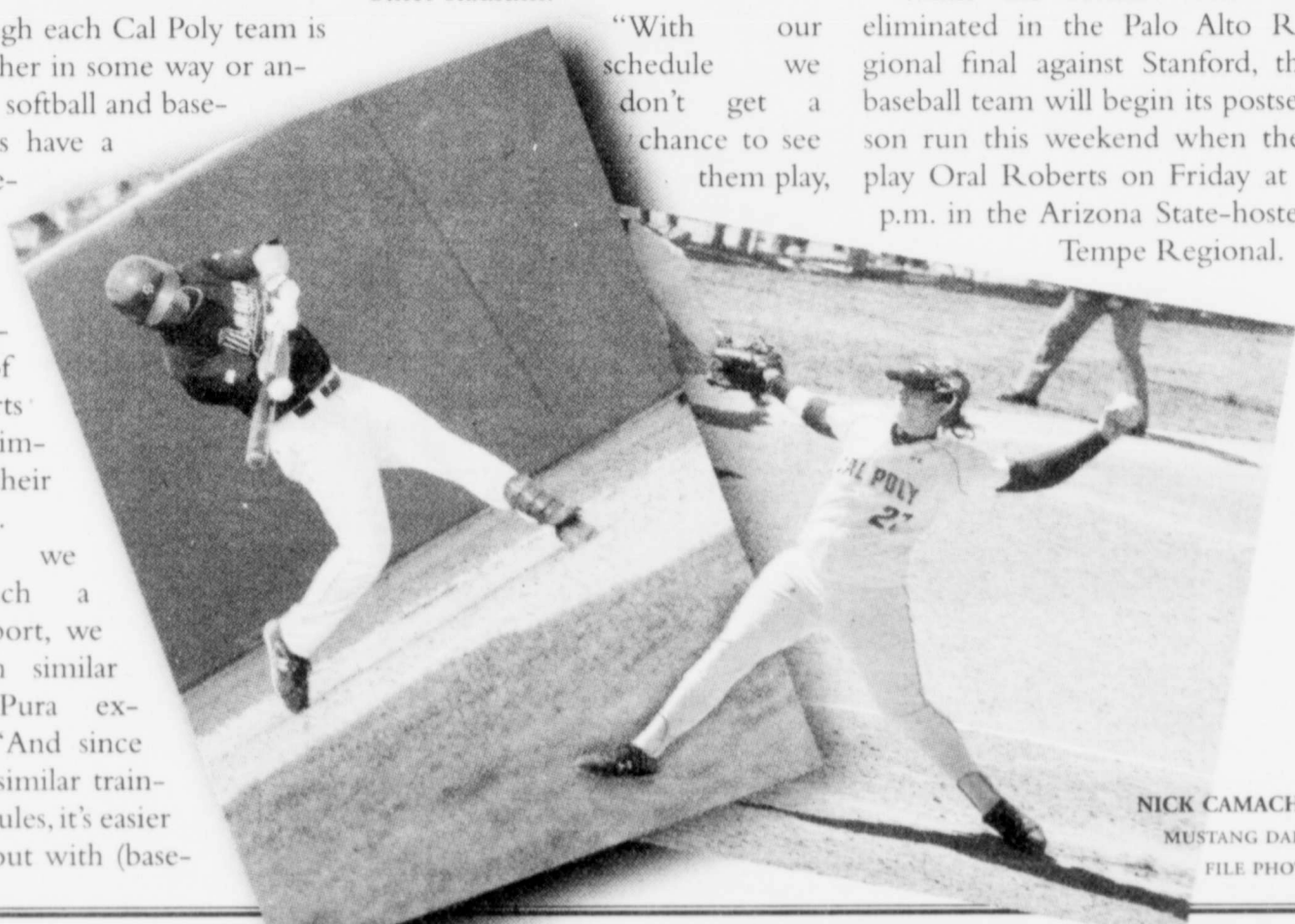
"With our schedule we don't get a chance to see them play,

because we are practicing at the same times," Smith said. "We can hear them sometimes though, we can hear the music, cheering and things."

It begins each year in the weight room. Both teams lift weights together in the fall, where they become acquainted with each other and start potential friendships.

"I've seen a lot of them come and go, got to know some of them pretty well," senior outfielder Ryan Lee said. "We train with them side by side in the weight room, so I have a good relationship with a handful of them."

While the softball team was eliminated in the Palo Alto Regional final against Stanford, the baseball team will begin its postseason run this weekend when they play Oral Roberts on Friday at 2 p.m. in the Arizona State-hosted Tempe Regional.



NICK CAMACHO
MUSTANG DAILY
FILE PHOTO

MUSTANG **round-up**

baseball

Buschini and Jensen named to Big West first team

MUSTANG DAILY STAFF REPORT

Junior first baseman Adam Buschini and freshman second baseman Matt Jensen were named to the 2009 All-Big West Conference first team on Wednesday night.

Jensen was also named Big West Conference Freshman of the Year despite missing the final three weeks of the regular season with a broken clavicle.

Buschini and Jensen are the 20th and 21st Mustangs to receive all-conference first-team honors since Cal Poly joined the Big West in 1997.

Buschini hit .412 during the regular season, capturing the Big



NICK CAMACHO MUSTANG DAILY FILE PHOTO

Cal Poly second baseman Matt Jensen, shown above, was named Big West Freshman of the Year along with his first-team selection Tuesday.

West batting title. The average also catapulted Buschini into the school record book tying the Division I record set by Scott Kidd in 1997.

Buschini also led the conference in slugging percentage (.723) and was second in total bases (128), on-base percentage (.478) and home runs (11). He hit a homer in each of Cal Poly's final four games of the regular season and finished third in RBI (57) and sixth in doubles (18).

Jensen sported a .375 batting average in 42 games and was among the conference leaders in average,

doubles (15), home runs (9), RBI (53), on-base percentage (.493) and slugging percentage (.650) before being injured.

The Mustangs had several players named to the all-conference second team including junior shortstop Kyle Smith and senior center fielder Ryan Lee. Junior catcher Ross Brayton, sophomore designated hitter DJ. Gentile, junior relief pitcher Mark DeVincenzi and senior closer Eric Massingham were placed on the honorable mention list.

Big West Champion UC Ir-

vine collected its second straight Big West Pitcher of the Year honor with the selection of Daniel Bibona (Scott Gorgen was a tri-pitcher of the year in 2008) and teammate Ben Orloff was named Big West Player of the Year.

Anteaters head coach Mike Gillespie collected the school's first Big West Coach of the Year award since 1987 when Mike Gerakos earned the same title. Cal State Fullerton's freshman duo of Noe Ramirez and Tyler Pill won Big West Co-Freshman Pitcher of the Year honors.

Cal Poly athletics second in Big West Conference

Cal Poly earned its highest ever finish in the 11-year history of the Big West Commissioner's Cup finishing second behind Long Beach State.

see Round-up, page 11

One man crew isn't enough for Lakers or Cavaliers



ASSOCIATED PRESS

LeBron James walks off the court after Tuesday's loss to Orlando. Can James or counterpart Kobe Bryant carry a team to the top?

Tim Dahlberg
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kobe Bryant still hasn't gotten a chance to hit a buzzer beater to beat the Denver Nuggets, so LeBron James retains bragging rights for now among the two superstars battling to stay in the NBA playoffs.

As wildly inconsistent as the Los Angeles Lakers continue to be, Bryant may never get the chance for an iconic shot of his own. Then again, maybe he's saving it for Game 7, where the Lakers-Nuggets series now seems destined to go.

At least Lakers fans better hope it goes that far.

Bryant did his usual share of work, but the way his supporting cast stood around Monday night and watched as the Nuggets chased down rebound after rebound to tie the Western Conference finals at two games apiece had to make Jack Nicholson and the rest of the beautiful people feel a little queasy.

Maybe they should have headed down to Staples Center instead, where the WWE was staging the "Monday Night Raw" wrestling card that was supposed to have been held in Denver because no one — including the team's owner — thought the Nuggets would make the conference finals. Actually, someone made up as Nicholson was there, as was a man posing as David Stern.

Say what you want about wrestling, but these guys know how to put on a show. There were villains and heroes, and a five-man tag team match featuring wrestlers in Nuggets uniforms bouncing off the ropes with those in Lakers' gear.

The Lakers won the match, touching off the kind of celebration the real team can only hope it gets upon its return home Wednesday night. They deserved it because, un-

see NBA, page 11